

Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program



2019 Application B

Producer Diversification

**Agritourism • Fruit and Vegetable • Honey Bee
Horticulture • Organic • Value-Added Products**

**Application Period
October 1 – 15, 2019**

Application Guide

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TAEP Overview

The Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program (TAEP) was established in 2005 to provide cost share dollars to agricultural producers for the purpose of making long-term investments in Tennessee farms and communities. Participation allows producers to maximize farm profits, adapt to changing market situations, improve operation safety, increase farm efficiency, and make a positive economic impact in their communities.

Application Period

The 2019 application period is open for two weeks: October 1-15, 2019.

Eligible Purchase Dates

Program purchases can be made starting October 1, 2019 and must be completed by the program reimbursement request deadline.

Approval Notification

Approval notifications are scheduled to be mailed in mid-December.

Reimbursement Request Deadlines

The reimbursement request deadline for Producer Diversification is August 1, 2020.

Payments are based upon expenses incurred for eligible program items.

2019 TAEP Application B

Sector	Reimbursement Maximum*	Reimbursement Request Deadline
Agritourism Fruit & Vegetable Honey Bee Horticulture Organic Value-Added Products	\$15,000	August 1, 2020
* Final maximums will be determined based upon overall demand for cost share funding.		

Program Changes

Reimbursement Request Deadline Change

The reimbursement request deadline for Producer Diversification has changed from September 1 to **August 1, 2020**.

Verification Period Increased

To ensure more long-term investments, the verification period has increased from three years to **five years**. Applicants must utilize equipment and structures reimbursed with cost share funds for the intended purpose of the program for a minimum of **five (5)** continuous years from the date of purchase.

Application Proposal

The outline for the application proposal has been reduced in length. The proposal template can be downloaded at www.tn.gov/taep in Producer Programs under Producer Diversification.

Attention Hemp Producers

Hemp projects are currently not eligible for TAEP cost share. Opportunities may be available in the future as this emerging market continues to develop in Tennessee. The TDA's Agriculture Enterprise Fund (AEF) offers grant opportunities for hemp processing agribusinesses. Please contact 615-837-5160 for more information regarding AEF.

Producer Diversification Overview

Producer Diversification Overview

The goal of the Producer Diversification program is to encourage agricultural producers to expand or improve their working farm/existing operation through the production of diversified agricultural products. This program provides cost share opportunities for industry sectors of Agritourism, Fruit & Vegetable, Honey Bee, Horticulture, Organic, and Value-Added Products. Project categories include farm infrastructure, marketing, and specialized equipment.

Application Proposal and Budget

The Producer Diversification program requires the applicant to submit an application form and a written proposal using the proposal questionnaire template. The proposal questionnaire template outlines the applicant's agricultural operation(s), previous TAEP history, marketing plan, proposed project(s), line-item project budget(s), and special requirement attendance – if requesting 50% cost share. Written cost estimates from each vendor/supplier are also required with the application proposal. Researching all costs associated with each proposed project is extremely important. Providing a line-item budget allows the review committee to make adjustments to the budget if there are items listed which are not approved. This allows for a partial project approval if needed. Funding allocation is based upon the final approved budget and the cost share percentage requested. Allocation amounts cannot exceed the program maximums.

Applications are competitively evaluated by industry sector according to each individual project. Projects are identified primarily by the sector in which they are eligible.

If approved, the applicant must pay for and complete all approved projects prior to submitting their cost share reimbursement request. Only one reimbursement payment is allowed per program.

Application Evaluation

Applications must merit financial support, clearly state objectives, provide a sound work plan, and prove applicant expertise necessary to successfully complete project(s). Only complete applications that include sufficient information will be considered for evaluation. An onsite visit or meeting may be required as part of the evaluation process.

Proposed activities must:

- Demonstrate significant potential for increasing farm income
- Be market driven and have a viable marketing plan
- Establish something new, not maintain on-going projects
- Meet all state and local food safety and regulatory requirements
- Produce long-term benefits for the farm

Project Examples

Project Description	Sector
Pavilion for farm tours	Agritourism
Commercial tents, tables, chairs	Agritourism
Road sign for operation	Agritourism
Retail shelters for farm produce	Agritourism
Greenhouse for growing vegetables	Fruit & Vegetable
Irrigation for pumpkins	Fruit & Vegetable
Honey processor	Honey Bee

Project Description	Sector
Apiary expansion	Honey Bee
Greenhouse for growing nursery stock	Horticulture
Tree digger	Horticulture
Flail mower	Organic
Roller crimper	Organic
Processing equipment	Value-Added Products
Walk-in freezer for farm-fresh meats	Value-Added Products

Standard Producer (35%) and Master Producer (50%)

Each sector allows for two cost share percentage options – 35% and 50%. All approved applicants are eligible for 35% (Standard Producer) cost share. To be eligible for 50% (Master Producer), the approved applicant must complete the special requirements for the sector in which their project is eligible. Special requirements focus on education and include conferences, courses, events, workshops, and specific certifications. Attendance is verified and the registered name must match the approved applicant to be eligible for 50% cost share.

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for TAEP cost share, applicant must:

1. Be a citizen of the United States of America or lawfully present in the United States.
2. Be a Tennessee resident operating a farm located in Tennessee.
3. Be at least 18 years old during the application period.
4. Have a working farm/existing agricultural operation in order to be competitive.
5. Have filed a Federal IRS Schedule F (Form 1040), Profit or Loss from Farming, within the last two years (2017 or 2018).

Applicant will not be required to submit a copy of their Schedule F at the time of application. However, applicant may be asked to submit a copy of their Schedule F prior to TAEP approval to verify their farming operation. If your operation does not file a Schedule F, please contact TAEP about alternate documentation to verify farming status.

IMPORTANT

Certifications, permits, and other priority requirements as specified by program must be completed by the applicant. No substitutions allowed.

Tennessee Department of Agriculture may:

- Accept, modify, or reject any or all requests.
- Modify program criteria, approval, and payment processes.
- Provide partial funding for specific activity components that may be less than the full amount requested.
 - Require additional information from the applicant.
 - Deny payments for projects that do not meet requirements.



February 20-22, 2020

www.picktnconference.com

Save the date...don't miss this opportunity to participate in educational sessions, tradeshow and networking with producers from across the state.

There's no such thing as "just a farmer." A farmer is a lot of things: business executive, scientist, educator, mechanic, market analyst, publicist, conservationist and community leader. To know everything a farmer needs to succeed year to year, it would help to be a magician, too!

The Pick TN Conference gives Tennessee farmers their best opportunity to explore the latest information and access the best resources for every facet of modern farm life, all in one event. Whether you grow an orchard, flowers, a corn maze, wine grapes, acres of produce, or manage a farmers market, you can leave the Pick TN Conference with a whole new bag of tricks to make 2020 your best year ever.

Program Requirements

Application

1. Applications must be submitted during the application period October 1 – 15, 2019.
 - Applications may be submitted by one of the following methods:
 - Mail – Applications must have a postmark date ranging from October 1 – 15, 2019.
 - Hand delivery to TDA, Holeman Building, 424 Hogan Road, Nashville, TN 37220 between October 1 – 15, 2019 during normal business hours.
 - Applications will not be accepted if faxed or emailed.
 - Applications are ineligible if postmarked or received prior to October 1 and after October 15, 2019.
2. Application B cost share requests are evaluated on a competitive basis by industry sector.
3. Applicants may only submit one Application B per Federal IRS Schedule F, per person, per application period, per operation.
4. Applicant will be notified in writing of approval or disapproval. Approvals will be mailed mid-December.
5. Reimbursement packet supersedes all information printed in the application booklet.

Reimbursement

1. Receipts dated prior to October 1, 2019 are not eligible.
2. Receipts for in-kind services are not eligible. Trade-in value is not eligible.
3. Used equipment, used materials, and leased equipment are not eligible for cost share reimbursement.
4. Labor provided by applicant is not eligible for cost share reimbursement.
5. Applicant cannot be reimbursed for purchases from a business where applicant participates in ownership (producer cooperatives excluded).
6. Applicants cannot combine projects with other applicants and submit more than one reimbursement for the same item.
7. Reimbursement documentation must be postmarked or hand delivered by the reimbursement request deadline. Additional processing time is required for incomplete reimbursement requests and requests submitted within one month of the program deadline. It is recommended that you submit your reimbursement request as soon as your project is completed.
8. There can only be one reimbursement payment per cost share approval. Projects must be completed by reimbursement request deadline.
9. Falsifying applications, invoices, or other documents submitted to TDA may make producer and farm ineligible to participate in present and/or future TDA programs, and may result in civil litigation or criminal prosecution.

Verification

1. Applicant must utilize equipment and structures reimbursed with cost share funds for the intended purpose of the program for a minimum of **five (5)** continuous years from date of purchase.
2. Site visits relating to the performance of the project before, during, and after completion may take place.
3. Applicants may be required to repay funds if they fail to comply with all aspects of the cost share guidelines.

Agritourism Sector

Who is an Agritourism Producer?

For the purposes of TAEP, an eligible Agritourism working farm offers on-the-farm experiences relating to production agriculture for a fee and is aimed at increasing profitability of the operation.

- Farm education (tours of production agriculture)
- Farm activities (pick your own, fee-fishing)
- Farm fun (corn maze, hayrides)
- Farm purchases (retail sales of farm's agricultural products)

Agritourism Producer Cost Share Opportunities

Standard Producer – 35% Cost Share - \$15,000 Maximum

All approved applicants with Agritourism projects are eligible for 35% cost share. There are no special requirements for 35% cost share.

Master Producer – 50% Cost Share - \$15,000 Maximum

To be eligible for 50% cost share, approved applicant must complete special requirements prior to the program reimbursement request deadline of August 1, 2020. The name registered for the special requirement must be the same name as the individual applying for cost share funding.

Special Requirements for 50% Cost Share

1. Pick Tennessee Conference/Tennessee Agritourism Conference – must attend
 2. Sector eligible educational course – must attend (1)
- Applicant must have participated in special requirements from 2016 – 2020.
 - The name registered for the special requirement must be the same name as the individual applying for cost share funding.
 - The Producer Diversification Special Requirements List is posted at www.tn.gov/taep in Producer Programs under Producer Diversification and updated when new courses are added. See p. 23 for the list as of time of publication printing.

What Agritourism Projects Qualify for TAEP?

The proposed activity/project must encompass quality expansion or improvement of the applicant's farm and business. The eligible categories are: farm infrastructure, specialty equipment, and marketing. Examples of eligible and ineligible items are provided on p. 7.

Competitive Projects - Agritourism

- Emphasis is given to projects that focus on long-term public use considerations which increase opportunities for profitability.
- Marketing projects that are long-term in nature and enhance outreach of the farm to the public are encouraged.
- **Preference will be given to projects that focus on agricultural education and production over agricultural entertainment.** Examples of agricultural entertainment include weddings, concerts, bed and breakfasts, trail rides, playgrounds, etc.

Agritourism Sector

Eligible Agritourism Items

- | | |
|---|---|
| DVD – educational, not for resale | Public address (PA) systems – safety or educational |
| Hand washing stations | Restroom facilities* |
| Handicap accessible areas* | Retail shelters* |
| Hayride wagon – safety or education | Safe way areas* |
| Lighting – public areas | Seating |
| Parking areas (new) – include dimensions and # of parking spots to be created | Security camera system |
| • Gravel or pavement | Signs* |
| • Geotextile preferred for gravel | Tables |
| Pavilions – educational | Tents |
| | Website development – see ineligible |
- Not all eligible items are listed; please contact the Producer Diversification Coordinator for project eligibility or clarification prior to applying for TAEP cost share.
 - All eligible items requested may not be approved due to the competitive evaluation of the program.

** Include dimensions and designs with project proposal.*

Ineligible Agritourism Items – Most commonly requested

Advertising	Maintenance of – existing structures, gravel projects, equipment, items, parking lots, etc.
Alarm/security systems	Meeting expenses
Arena/Barn – livestock, storage	Merchandise
Bed & Breakfast projects	Motorized vehicles – ATV, forklift, tractor
Brochures	Motorized rides
Building – storage	Office equipment
Building – show facility	Permits
Cash register/point of sale system	Playground equipment
Computers	Printing
Concession stands/kitchens	Product development
Containers – bottles, pots, packaging	Property – purchase or debt payment
Driveways, trails, paths, roads, etc.	Renovations of existing structures
Electrical consumption	Replacing existing equipment, items etc.
Fees – membership	Salaries, wages, benefits
Fencing	Software
Flyers – promotional	Store – for resale of goods
Fuel	Trade show expenses
General inputs	Trailers – livestock
Giveaway items	Used equipment
Golf Carts	Water source creation – ponds/wells
Landscaping	Website – annual or hosting fees
Land – clearing of	Wedding pavilions
Livestock	

Fruit and Vegetable Sector

Who is a Fruit and Vegetable Producer?

For the purposes of TAEP, an eligible Fruit and Vegetable operation is involved in the production of produce for sale and is aimed at increasing profitability of the operation.

- Fruit and vegetable grower
- Pumpkin producers
- Viticulture – grape production only

Fruit and Vegetable Producer Cost Share Opportunities

Standard Producer – 35% Cost Share - \$15,000 Maximum

All approved applicants with Fruit & Vegetable projects are eligible for 35% cost share. There are no special requirements for 35% cost share.

Master Producer – 50% Cost Share - \$15,000 Maximum

To be eligible for 50% cost share, approved applicant must complete special requirements prior to the program reimbursement request deadline of August 1, 2020. The name registered for the special requirement must be the same name as the individual applying for cost share funding.

Special Requirements for 50% Cost Share

Option 1: Fruit & Vegetable producers

1. Pick Tennessee Conference (previously Tennessee Horticultural Expo) – must attend
2. Sector eligible educational course – must attend (1)

- Applicant must have participated in special requirements from 2016 – 2020.
- The name registered for the special requirement must be the same name as the individual applying for cost share funding.
- The Producer Diversification Special Requirements List is posted at www.tn.gov/taep in Producer Programs under Producer Diversification and updated when new courses are added. See p. 23 for the list as of time of publication printing.

Option 2: Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)

Applicant must have GAP certification and current letter of compliance at time of reimbursement.

What Fruit and Vegetable Projects Qualify for TAEP?

The proposed activity/project must encompass quality expansion or improvement of the applicant's farm and business. The eligible categories are: farm infrastructure, specialty equipment, and marketing. Examples of eligible and ineligible items are provided on p. 9.

Competitive Projects - Fruit and Vegetable

- **Priority is given to projects that focus on improving or increasing production.**
- Marketing projects that are long-term in nature are allowed but are not considered as competitive as those involving production.

Fruit and Vegetable Sector

Eligible Fruit and Vegetable Items

<p>Apple/peach liners</p> <p>Bladder press – viticulture</p> <p>Crusher/destemmer</p> <p>Cold storage*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chilling units – not for AC units • Freezer • Walk-in cooler <p>Fan – greenhouse</p> <p>Fertilizer equipment</p> <p>Field planter</p> <p>Fruit stock</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apples • Blackberries • Blueberries • Grapes • Peaches • Raspberries <p>Gravel*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundation • Propagation area • Geotextile <p>Hand washing stations for workers</p> <p>Harvest bins/lugs</p> <p>Greenhouse*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hydroponic • Overwintering • Production • Shade system <p>Heater – greenhouse</p>	<p>High tunnel/hoop-house*</p> <p>Irrigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Controller system • Fertigation system • Filter system • Frost protection • Overhead • Pivot • Pond liner • Pump • Storage tanks <p>Lighting – not for aesthetics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenhouse* • Pavilion/retail shelter* <p>Loading area/dock*</p> <p>Mechanical harvesters</p> <p>Mulch machine</p> <p>Must pump – fruit juices only</p> <p>Packing facility*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structure • Electrical • Plumbing • Packing line/washing equipment <p>Permanent restroom facilities for workers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standalone structure from packing facility • Sinks/toilets • Electrical • Plumbing 	<p>Pest control</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bird control netting • Sprayer • Wildlife barriers <p>Plastic mulch layer/lifter</p> <p>Plastic pallets (food grade only)</p> <p>Production line equipment</p> <p>Pruner – mechanical</p> <p>Signs*</p> <p>Sink – produce washing</p> <p>Soil mixer</p> <p>Spray equipment</p> <p>Sprayer</p> <p>Thermostat – greenhouse</p> <p>Trellis materials – berries and vines</p> <p>Vineyard hoe</p> <p>Website development – see ineligible items</p> <p>Wood boiler</p>
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- Not all eligible items are listed; please contact the Producer Diversification Coordinator for project eligibility or clarification prior to applying for TAEP cost share.
- All eligible items requested may not be approved due to the competitive evaluation of the program.

** Include dimensions and designs with project proposal.*

Ineligible Fruit and Vegetable Items – Most commonly requested

<p>Advertising</p> <p>Brochures</p> <p>Building – storage</p> <p>Chemicals</p> <p>Computers</p> <p>Concession stands/kitchens</p> <p>Containers – bottles, pots, packaging</p> <p>Drip tape</p> <p>Driveways, trails, paths, roads, etc.</p> <p>Electrical consumption</p> <p>Fees – membership</p> <p>Fencing</p> <p>Fertilizer</p> <p>Fuel</p> <p>Giveaway items</p> <p>Golf cart</p> <p>Hand Tools</p> <p>Insecticides</p>	<p>Labor – applicant</p> <p>Landscaping</p> <p>Land – clearing of</p> <p>Maintenance of existing structures, equipment, items, etc.</p> <p>Meeting expenses</p> <p>Merchandise</p> <p>Motorized vehicles – ATV, forklift, tractor</p> <p>Mower</p> <p>Office equipment</p> <p>Permits – or certifications</p> <p>Pesticides</p> <p>Plants – liners/plugs</p> <p>Product development</p> <p>Property – purchase or debt payment</p> <p>Renovations of existing structures</p> <p>Seeds – produce, nursery, flowers, etc.</p> <p>Software</p>	<p>Store – general</p> <p>Trade show expenses</p> <p>Trailers – livestock</p> <p>Used equipment</p> <p>Water source creation – ponds, wells</p> <p>Website – annual or hosting fees</p> <p>Winemaking equipment - see <i>Value-Added Products sector pp. 16 - 17</i></p>
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Honey Bee Sector

Who is a Honey Bee Producer?

For the purposes of TAEP, an eligible Honey Bee producer must meet the minimum requirements of beekeeping experience and number of existing colonies as outlined below in Honey Bee Applicant Requirements.

Honey Bee Applicant Requirements

Experience

- Minimum experience of five (5) years and current ownership of at least fifteen (15) colonies is required to participate.
- Minimum experience of five (5) years and current ownership of at least thirty (30) existing colonies is required to request cost share for construction of a TDA licensed and inspected Honey Processing Facility.
- Applicant must report experience and number of hives in application proposal to be eligible.
 - If the applicant has assisted other beekeepers and mentors in working directly with bees, he or she may count this hands-on experience toward the requirements. The applicant must list the beekeeper's name, contact information, and length of time spent assisting this beekeeper for this experience to be considered.
 - There is not a year requirement for ownership of hives but applicants must own required number of hives at time of application.

TDA Consumer & Industry Services Division

- Apiaries must be registered with the State of Tennessee by the time of the application period (October 1 – 15, 2019). Contact TDA State Apiarist at 615-837-5342 for more information.
- If you pack or sell more than (150) gallons of honey per year, you must be licensed and inspected by the State of Tennessee as a food manufacturing facility. Contact TDA Consumer & Industry Services Division at 615-837-5153 for more information.

Honey Bee Producer Cost Share Opportunities

Standard Producer – 35% Cost Share - \$15,000 Maximum

All approved applicants with Honey Bee projects are eligible for 35% cost share. There are no special requirements for 35% cost share.

Master Producer – 50% Cost Share - \$15,000 Maximum

To be eligible for 50% cost share, approved applicant must complete special requirements prior to the program reimbursement request deadline of August 1, 2020. The name registered for the special requirement must be the same name as the individual applying for cost share funding.

Special Requirements for 50% Cost Share

UT Master Beekeeper Program – certificate must be **current** at time of reimbursement to be eligible for 50% cost share

- **Recertification is required if course was completed prior to 2016.**
- Certificate must be in the name of the applicant applying for cost share funding.
- Contact your local UT Extension Agent if you are unsure the year your master certificate was issued.
- Visit bees.tennessee.edu or call 865-974-0209 for more information about this program.

What Honey Bee Projects Qualify for TAEP?

The proposed activity must encompass quality expansion or improvement of pollination or honey production. The eligible categories are: apiary expansion, honey processing equipment, pollination services, and honey processing facility. Examples of eligible and ineligible items are provided on p. 11.

Competitive Projects - Honey Bee

- **Priority is given to projects that focus on improving or increasing production of honey, bees, or hive related products.**
- Priority is given to proposals with a well-developed marketing strategy.

Honey Bee Sector

Eligible Honey Bee Items

Apiary Expansion

Beekeeping supplies

- Queens: one per new hive – re-queening of existing hives is not eligible
- Package bees
- Nucleus colonies – honey bees & boxes

Hive or super equipment

- Deep supers – hive bodies 9 5/8"
- Illinois, Western, Medium supers 6 5/8"
- Shallow supers 6 1/4"

Frames

- Deep supers – hive bodies 9 5/8"
- Illinois, Western, Medium supers 6 5/8"
- Shallow supers 6 1/4"

Foundation wax

- Deep supers – hive bodies 9 5/8"
- Illinois, Western, Medium supers 6 5/8"
- Shallow supers 6 1/4"

Hive accessories

- Telescoping covers, Western, or flat covers

- Bottom boards
- Division board feeders
- Entrance feeder
- Top feeders
- Queen excluders
- Entrance reducers
- Metal frame spacers
- Metal rabbets
- Eyelets
- Frame wire
- Pollen traps

Honey Processing Equipment

Band heaters
Bottling bucket kit
Capping scratchers
Containers – 5 or more gallons and usually stainless steel
Drum handling truck
Extractors – motorized recommended
Gates for honey storage
Honey bottling valve

Honey dispensing tanks
Honey filter
Honey refractometer
Immersion heaters
Strainers
Un-cappers
Uncapping knives
Wax melters

Pollination Services

All items and equipment listed in above sections are also eligible under the pollination services.
Trailers – size cannot be larger than needed for the number of colonies.

Honey Processing Facility*

Building materials to construct a licensed facility.
Labor is only eligible for infrastructure projects. In order to be eligible for cost share reimbursement, labor must be quoted and performed by a contractor.

- Not all eligible items are listed; please contact the Producer Diversification Coordinator for project eligibility or clarification prior to applying for TAEP cost share.
- All eligible items requested may not be approved due to the competitive evaluation of the program.

** Include dimensions and designs with project proposal.*

Ineligible Honey Bee Items – Most commonly requested

Bee brush
Bee escapes
Bee go – product for moving bees out of supers
Bee hats
Beekeeping gloves
Bees for resale
Beetle boards
Brood builder
Comb cutters
Corn syrup
Coveralls
Diagnostic kits
Electric embedder
Equipment for resale
Frame/form board
Frame cleaner
Frame grip(s)

Frame fixers
Frame holders
Frames for resale
Frame spacing tool
Fume boards
Grafting tools
Hive tools
Honey containers
Jars and caps
Labels
Mailing cages
Maxant hive tools
Medications
Packaging
Plastic queen cell cups
Observation hives
Queen cell protectors
Queen clipping scissors

Queen paint markers
Replacement of equipment/bees/existing items or structures
Ross rounds
Section scraping tools
Small hive beetle traps
Smokers
Smoker bellows
Smoker materials
Sting kill swabs
Sugar
Swarm traps
Sweat bands
Used equipment
Used materials
Veils

Horticulture Sector

Who is a Horticulture Producer?

For the purposes of TAEP, an eligible Horticulture operation is involved in the production of tree/plant stock for sale and is aimed at increasing profitability of the operation.

- Tree farms
- Nurseries
- Plant farms

Horticulture Applicant Requirements

Experience

- The applicant's business must produce the majority of their plants from seed or cutting to finished product.
 - Businesses who make the majority of their gross sales from plants purchased for resale are not eligible.

TDA Consumer & Industry Services Division

- Producers must meet all state and local regulatory requirements at time of application submission (October 1 – 15, 2019).
- Applicants producing nursery stock, greenhouse plants, turf grass, etc. must be licensed by the State of Tennessee.
 - Contact the TDA Consumer and Industry Services Division at 615-837-5137 for more information on required permits.

Horticulture Producer Cost Share Opportunities

Standard Producer – 35% Cost Share - \$15,000 Maximum

All approved applicants with Horticulture projects are eligible for 35% cost share. There are no special requirements for 35% cost share.

Master Producer – 50% Cost Share - \$15,000 Maximum

To be eligible for 50% cost share, applicant must complete special requirements prior to the program reimbursement request deadline of August 1, 2020. The name registered for the special requirement must be the same name as the individual applying for cost share funding.

Special Requirements for 50% Cost Share

UT Master Nursery Producer Program (TMNP) – certificate must be **current** at time of reimbursement to be eligible for 50% cost share

- **Recertification is required if course was completed prior to 2016.**
- Certificate must be in the name of the applicant applying for cost share funding.
- Contact your local UT TMNP Coordinator's office at 865-974-7152 if you are unsure the year your master certificate was issued.
- Visit www.tnmasternursery.com for more information about this program.

What Horticulture Projects Qualify for TAEP?

The proposed activity/project must encompass quality expansion or improvement of the applicant's farm and business. The eligible categories are: farm infrastructure, specialty equipment, and marketing. Examples of eligible and ineligible items are provided on p. 13.

Competitive Projects - Horticulture

- **Priority is given to projects that focus on improving or increasing production.**
- Marketing projects that are long-term in nature are allowed but are not considered as competitive as those involving production.

Horticulture Sector

Eligible Horticulture Items

Aeration system – flowers	Heater – greenhouse	Rolling carts
Cold frames*	High tunnel/hoop house*	Sod harvester
Cold storage*	Irrigation	Soil mixer
• Walk in cooler	• Controller system	Spray equipment
• Components	• Drip	Sprayer
Container production area*	• Filter system	Thermal tag printer – horticulture only
Drying house – flowers*	• Overhead	Thermostat – greenhouse
Fan – greenhouse	• Pivot	Tree baler – standing
Fertilizer equipment	• Pond liner	Tree claw
Field planter	• Pump	Tree lifter/shaker
Gravel – geotextile preferred	Lighting – not for aesthetics	Tree hauling wagons
• Foundation*	• Greenhouse*	Tree spade
• Propagation area*	Loading area/dock*	Tree transplanter
• Container production	Packing facility*	Tree trimmer
Greenhouse *	Packing line equipment	Water level control
• Covering	Potting building*	Water storage tanks
• Overwintering	Potting wagon	Website development – see ineligible
• Shade system	Propagation building*	Wood boiler
• Structure	Propagation mats	

• Not all eligible items are listed; please contact the Producer Diversification Coordinator for project eligibility or clarification prior to applying for TAEP cost share.

• All eligible items requested may not be approved due to the competitive evaluation of the program.

** Include dimensions and designs with project proposal.*

Ineligible Horticulture Items – Most commonly requested

Advertising	Land – clearing of	Store – general
Brochures	Livestock	Trade show display and expenses
Building – storage	Maintenance of existing structures, equipment, items, etc.	Trailers – livestock
Catalogs	Meeting expenses	Used equipment
Chemicals	Merchandise	Water source creation – ponds/wells
Computers	Motorized vehicles – ATV, forklift, tractor	Website – annual, domain, or hosting fees
Containers – bottles, pots, packaging	Mower	
Driveways, trails, paths, roads, etc.	Office equipment	
Electrical consumption	Permits	
Fees – membership	Pesticides	
Fencing	Plants – liners/plugs	
Fertilizer	Product development	
Fuel	Property – purchase or debt payment	
Giveaway items	Renovations – of existing structures	
Golf cart	Seeds – produce, nursery, flowers, etc.	
Insecticides	Software	
Labor – applicant	Solar power equipment	
Landscaping		

Organic Sector

Who is an Organic Producer?

For the purposes of TAEP, an eligible organic operation is involved in the production and sale of certified USDA Organic products (fruits, vegetables, and meats) and is aimed at increasing profitability of the operation. Applicant must be certified USDA Organic or working towards certification to qualify. Certification must be current at the time of reimbursement request.

- Organic fruit producer
- Organic viticulture producer
- Organic vegetable producer
- Organic farm fresh meat producer

Organic Producer Cost Share Opportunities

Standard Producer – 35% Cost Share - \$15,000 Maximum

All approved applicants with Organic projects are eligible for 35% cost share. There are no special requirements for 35% cost share.

Master Producer – 50% Cost Share - \$15,000 Maximum

To be eligible for 50% cost share, applicant must complete special requirements prior to the program reimbursement request deadline of August 1, 2020. The registered name for the certificate/letter must be the same name as the individual applying for cost share funding.

Special Requirements for 50% Cost Share

USDA Organic Certification – applicant must be certified USDA Organic (certificate and current letter of compliance) at time of reimbursement to be eligible for 50% cost share.

— See p. 24 for organic certification agencies contacts near Tennessee.

What Organic Projects Qualify for TAEP?

The proposed activity/project must encompass quality expansion or improvement of the applicant's farm and business. The eligible categories are: farm infrastructure, specialty equipment, and marketing. Examples of eligible and ineligible items are provided on p. 15.

Competitive Projects – Organic

- **Priority is given to projects that focus on improving or increasing production.**
- Marketing projects that are long-term in nature are allowed but are not considered as competitive as those involving production.

TAEP staff will coordinate with UT Extension and USDA to verify organic compliance. Applicants need to send a copy of their USDA Organic certificate and most current letter of compliance for TAEP records.

Organic Sector

Eligible Organic Items

<p>Fan – greenhouse</p> <p>Fertilizer equipment</p> <p>Field planter</p> <p>Flail mower</p> <p>Fruit stock</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apples • Blackberries • Blueberries • Peaches • Grapes • Raspberries <p>Gravel – geotextile preferred</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundation • Propagation area <p>Greenhouse*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structure • Hydroponic • Overwintering • Shade system 	<p>Heater – greenhouse</p> <p>High tunnel/hoop house*</p> <p>Irrigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Controller system • Drip • Filter system • Overhead • Pivot • Pump • Water level control • Water storage tanks <p>Lighting – not for aesthetics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenhouse <p>Loading area/dock*</p> <p>Mulch machine</p> <p>Mulch layer/lifter</p> <p>Packing facility*</p> <p>Packing line equipment</p> <p>Pond liner – irrigation system</p>	<p>Production line equipment</p> <p>Roller crimper</p> <p>Signs*</p> <p>Sink – produce washing</p> <p>Soil mixer</p> <p>Spader</p> <p>Spray equipment</p> <p>Sprayer</p> <p>Thermostat – greenhouse</p> <p>Trellis materials</p> <p>Walk in cooler*</p> <p>Website development – see ineligible</p> <p>Wood boiler</p>
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- Not all eligible items are listed; please contact the Producer Diversification Coordinator for project eligibility or clarification prior to applying for TAEP cost share.
- All eligible items requested may not be approved due to the competitive evaluation of the program.

** Include dimensions and designs with project proposal.*

Ineligible Organic Items – Most commonly requested

<p>Advertising</p> <p>Alcohol production equipment</p> <p>Brochures</p> <p>Building – storage</p> <p>Certifications through TDA</p> <p>Chemicals</p> <p>Computers</p> <p>Containers – bottles, pots, packaging</p> <p>Drip tape</p> <p>Driveways, trails, paths, roads, etc.</p> <p>Electrical consumption</p> <p>Fees – membership</p> <p>Fencing</p> <p>Fertilizer</p> <p>Fuel</p>	<p>Giveaway items</p> <p>Golf cart</p> <p>Insecticides</p> <p>Labor – applicant</p> <p>Landscaping</p> <p>Land – clearing of</p> <p>Livestock</p> <p>Maintenance of existing structures, equipment, items, etc.</p> <p>Meeting expenses</p> <p>Merchandise</p> <p>Motorized vehicles – ATV, forklift, tractor</p> <p>Mower</p> <p>Office equipment</p> <p>Permits</p>	<p>Pesticides</p> <p>Plants – liners/plugs</p> <p>Product development</p> <p>Property – purchase or debt payment</p> <p>Renovations – of existing structures</p> <p>Seeds – produce, nursery, flowers, etc.</p> <p>Software</p> <p>Store – general</p> <p>Trade show expenses</p> <p>Trailers – livestock</p> <p>Used equipment</p> <p>Water source creation – ponds/wells</p> <p>Website – annual, domain, or hosting fees</p>
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Value-Added Products Sector

Who is a Value-Added Products Producer?

For the purposes of TAEP, an eligible Value-Added business produces products for sale that use raw foods or fibers produced by their agricultural operation. Applicants must use agricultural products that have been grown on their farm as primary source of the value-added product. Businesses within the sector include a variety of products such as:

- Cheese
- Clothing
- Crafts
- Farm fresh meats
- Ice cream
- Jams
- Jellies
- Relishes
- Salsa
- Wine
- Other

TDA Consumer & Industry Services Division Requirements

- Applicants producing processed foods, meats, dairy, and related products must be licensed and inspected by the State of Tennessee as a food manufacturing facility if applicable.
- Contact the TDA Consumer and Industry Services Division at 615-837-5177 for more information on state regulations.

Value-Added Products Producer Cost Share Opportunities

Standard Producer – 35% Cost Share - \$15,000 Maximum

All approved applicants with Value-Added Products projects are eligible for 35% cost share. There are no special requirements for 35% cost share.

Master Producer – 50% Cost Share - \$15,000 Maximum

To be eligible for 50% cost share, applicant must complete special requirements prior to the program reimbursement request deadline of August 1, 2020. The name registered for the special requirement must be the same name as the individual applying for cost share funding.

Special Requirements for 50% Cost Share

Value-Added Educational Courses – applicant must attend (2) eligible special requirements courses

- Applicant must have participated in special requirements from 2016 – 2020.
- The name registered for the special requirement must be the same name as the individual applying for cost share funding.
- The Producer Diversification Special Requirements List is posted at www.tn.gov/taep in Producer Programs under Producer Diversification and updated when new courses are added. See p. 23 for the list as of time of publication printing.

What Value-Added Projects Qualify for TAEP?

The proposed activity/project must encompass quality expansion or improvement of the applicant's farm and business. The eligible categories are: farm infrastructure, specialty equipment, and marketing. Examples of eligible and ineligible items are provided on p. 17.

Competitive Projects – Value-Added Products

- Priority is given to projects that focus on improving or increasing production.
- **Producers that are producing 100% of the raw food or fiber product(s) to be used in their value-added enterprise are given priority over off-farm sourcing of raw product.**
- Marketing projects are allowed but are not considered as competitive as those involving production.

Value-Added Products Sector

Eligible Value-Added Items

Cold storage*	Loading dock*	Refrigerators
E-Commerce development	Packaging equipment	Refrigerated trailers (trailer only)
Freezers*	Pasteurizers	Retail shelter*
• Walk-in	Processing areas*	Website development – see ineligible
• Chest	Processing equipment	Winemaking equipment
Hand washing areas* – for food safety	Range/stove	

- Not all eligible items are listed; please contact the Producer Diversification Coordinator for project eligibility or clarification prior to applying for TAEP cost share.
- All eligible items requested may not be approved due to the competitive evaluation of the program.

** Include dimensions and designs with project proposal.*

Ineligible Value-Added Items – most commonly requested

Advertising	Labels	Store – general
Brochures	Labor – applicant	Trailers – livestock
Building – storage	Landscaping	Used equipment
Chemicals	Land – clearing of	Water source creation – ponds/wells
Computers	Livestock	Website – annual, domain, or hosting fees
Containers – bottles, pots, packaging	Maintenance of existing structures, equipment, items, etc.	
Driveways, trails, paths, roads, etc.	Merchandise	
Electrical consumption	Motorized vehicles – ATV, forklift, tractor	
Fees – membership	Office equipment	
Fencing	Permits	
Fertilizer	Product development	
Fuel	Property – purchase or debt payment	
Giveaway items	Renovations – of existing structures	
Golf cart	Rent	
Ingredients	Software	
Items for resale		

Preparing Application B

Things to Consider Before Applying

Know what to expect

Read the Producer Diversification Overview (p. 3) which highlights the key aspects of the program.

Determine if you are eligible to apply

Basic eligibility requirements and rules are featured on pp. 4 & 5. Review criteria for each sector. Each sector has a definition of who qualifies as a producer and sector specific applicant requirements.

Determine if there is opportunity within this cost share program for your operation

One key element of this program is that it allows the producer to customize their project(s) according to the needs of their operation. Think about what improvement or expansions are needed to assist in increasing your farm income. Determine if this project is eligible for cost share within the program guidelines.

If the project is eligible, research the cost of the project and decide if your operation can afford to do this project. Your project may be eligible for cost share if approved, but the financial liability of completing the project is your responsibility. Approved projects must be completed prior to requesting reimbursement. **Cost share funding is not provided prior to project completion.**

The program timeline is another factor to consider. You will apply for cost share during the application period (October 1 – 15, 2019). Approval notifications will be announced in mid-December. If you plan to complete the project regardless of whether it is approved for cost share, the earliest you may start your project is October 1, 2019. Invoices dated **prior** to October 1, 2019 are not eligible per TAEP Reimbursement Requirement.

The reimbursement request deadline is August 1, 2020. Your approved project(s) must be fully completed and reimbursement materials submitted by this date (postmark or hand delivered) to be considered for cost share funding. **It is recommended you submit your reimbursement request as soon as your project is complete.** It is not necessary to wait until the reimbursement request deadline. Processing payments can take longer at deadline time due to the high volume of requests received.

Make the most of application tools to maximize your chances of approval

This program is competitive by industry sector. Each application will be reviewed by a committee and compared to other proposals within each sector. Your ability to describe your operation and justify how your project(s) will benefit your operation is important to increasing your chances of approval.

It is recommended to request the proposal questionnaire template (see p. 19 – required materials). This template provides the format and questionnaire required for your proposal. The proposal instructions (pp. 20 – 21) give key points to address within each question. Remember that the proposal is your opportunity to share who you are, what you do, and how your operation will benefit from cost share assistance.

Provide a comprehensive, yet concise, answer on each section of the questionnaire. Research all project costs and provide cost sources along with cost estimates. **Incomplete information is the number one reason for not receiving cost share funds.** Ask someone to review your application materials for completeness. Please note that TDA staff cannot review proposals prior to submission.

Communication is the key to success. Please contact TAEP directly if you have any questions or concerns. The reference list on p. 24 provides additional resources.

Preparing Application B

Required Application Materials

1. Application B Form (pp. 25 – 26)

- Complete all sections of the form, date, and sign
- Special requirements for 50% cost share must be in the name of the individual applying for cost share

2. Proposal (pp. 20 – 21)

- Download a copy of the application proposal template online at www.tn.gov/taep in Producer Programs under Producer Diversification. A copy may also be requested by emailing producer.diversification@tn.gov.

This template provides the required format for preparing your written proposal. It outlines your agricultural operation(s), marketing plan, proposed project(s), and line-item budget(s).

3. Project cost quotes

- Research all costs associated with each project
- Secure cost quotes for each project request
- Outline project costs in a line-item budget format

Providing a line-item budget allows the review committee to make adjustments to the budget if there are items listed which are not approved. This allows for a partial project approval – if needed. Funding allocation is based upon the final approved budget and the cost share percentage requested. Allocation amounts cannot exceed the program maximums.

4. Other support materials – if applicable

- Designs – required for infrastructure projects; include dimensions
- Pictures – “before” pictures are helpful to illustrate why improvement is needed

How to Submit

Make a copy of your application materials for your records and submit the original by hand delivery or mail. Please consider using a traceable method of delivery if mailing your application. For example, USPS Certified Mail with Return Receipt method will provide the sender with evidence of delivery (to whom the mail was delivered and date of delivery).

Hand Delivery

Applications may be hand delivered to the TAEP office, which is located in the Holeman Building at the Ellington Agricultural Center. The physical address is: 424 Hogan Rd., Nashville, TN 37220.

Mailing Address

TN Dept of Agriculture
Attn: TAEP 2019 - B
P.O. Box 40627
Nashville, TN 37204

Application B - Proposal Instructions

- It is strongly recommended to submit your proposal and budget in the format outline presented below.
- Download a copy of the application proposal online at www.tn.gov/taep in Producer Programs under Producer Diversification.
- Be sure to answer the following bullet points to the best of your ability.
- Request an electronic copy by emailing producer.diversification@tn.gov.

2019 Producer Diversification Proposal Questionnaire

Agriculture Operation

Please use the following to describe the operation you are applying for

- a. Farm/business name
- b. Describe current services/products your operation provides.
- c. What facilities/structures does the operation currently have?
e.g. existing structures, parking, restrooms, lighting – if applying for honey bees provide the number of hives, etc.
- d. Provide approximate sales income generated from this operation for the past three years (2016, 2017, 2018)
- e. Is your operation involved with any other agriculture production?
e.g. Number of acres and types of products produced, and/or type and number of livestock

Marketing Plan

Please use the following to describe how your operation is currently marketed

- a. How do you promote your operation?
- b. Where are your products/services currently being sold at or will be sold?

Proposed Projects

*Please use the following to describe **each** of your proposed projects **separately***

- a. List each project you are proposing in detail. It may be easier to describe them separately.
- b. Explain how each project (separately) will improve or expand your operation.
- c. Describe the timeline of your project(s).
Note project completion is required by the program deadline.

Application B - Proposal Instructions

Proposed Budget & Cost Quotes

Budget and quotes will both be used to determine an allocation amount for the proposed project(s) – if approved.

- Provide a detailed, line-item budget, for each proposed project using the template presented below.
- Additional documentation is required; please submit cost quotes for each budgeted item.

Any purchase made prior to October 1, 2019 is not eligible for cost share. Used equipment, used materials, and leased equipment are not eligible.

Proposed Budget						
Project Sector	Item Description	Source of Cost Quote	QTY	Total Cost	%	Amount Requested
Fruit & Vegetable	Peach tree liners	The Peach Seed Co.	300	\$9,000	50%	\$4,500
Value-Added Products	Fruit press	Jacto, Inc.	1	\$2,500	35%	\$875
TOTAL				\$11,500		\$5,375

Special Requirements for 50%

To be eligible for 50% cost share, the approved applicant must complete special requirements **prior** to the program reimbursement request deadline (August 1, 2020). Special requirements focus on education and include conferences, courses, events, workshops, and specific certifications. **The applicant must have participated in educational programs or recertification from 2016-2020.** The name registered for the special requirement must be the same name as the individual approved for cost share funding.

Special Requirements by Sector

Agritourism

1. Pick Tennessee Conference – must attend
2. Sector eligible educational course – must attend (1)

Fruit & Vegetable Sector

Option #1:

1. Pick Tennessee Conference – must attend
2. Sector eligible educational course – must attend (1)

Option #2: Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)

1. GAP certification – applicant must provide certificate and current letter of compliance at time of reimbursement)

Honey Bee

1. UT Master Beekeeper certification – see p.10 for more information

Horticulture

1. UT Master Nursery Producer certification – see p. 12 for more information

Organics

1. USDA Organic certification – applicant must provide USDA Organic certification and current letter of compliance at time of reimbursement

Value-Added Products

1. Value-Added educational courses – applicant must attend (2) eligible events

Special Requirements List

This list features eligible courses and events from 2016-2020 for the Agritourism (Agri-T), Fruit & Vegetable (F&V), and Value-Added Products (VAP) sectors. This list posted at www.tn.gov/taep in Producer Programs under Producer Diversification and is updated when new courses are added. See p. 23 for the list as of time of publication printing.

How to register for special requirement courses?

The University of Tennessee Institute for Agriculture's **Center for Profitable Agriculture (CPA)** administers the majority of the courses offered. Visit cpa.utk.edu/ and click on workshops under the educational events tab.

Cornell University offer GAPs Online Produce Safety Training course. Visit gaps.cornell.edu for more information.

Pick Tennessee Conference will be held February 20-22, 2020 in Franklin. Visit www.picktnconference.com for more information.

Please contact producer.diversification@tn.gov for more information on special requirements.

Special Requirements for 50%

Producer Diversification - Special Requirements List

Sector	Event	Month	Year
F&V, VAP	CPA - Farmers Market Boot Camp	January	2016
F&V, VAP	CPA - Farmers Market Boot Camp	February	2016
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	Pick Tennessee Conference	February	2016
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	CPA - Direct Farm Marketing for Success	March	2016
F&V, VAP	CPA - Farmers Market Boot Camp	March	2016
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	TSU Small Farm Workshop	May	2016
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	CPA - Pumpkins for Profit	July/August	2016
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	CPA - Advanced Social Media	November	2016
VAP	CPA - Grass-Fed Beef Conference (eligible only for value-added meats)	November	2016
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	CPA - E-commerce Options	December	2016
F&V, VAP	CPA - Farmers Market Boot Camp	January	2017
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	CPA - Video Content Creation and Marketing	January	2017
F&V, VAP	CPA - Farmers Market Boot Camp	February	2017
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	Pick Tennessee Conference	February	2017
F&V	Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training	February	2017
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	CPA - E-commerce for Direct Farm Marketers	April	2017
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	CPA - Record Keeping for Successful Value-Added Enterprises	April	2017
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	CPA - E-commerce for Direct Farm Marketers	May	2017
VAP	CPA - Grass-Fed Beef Conference (eligible only for value-added meats)	June	2017
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	CPA - Record Keeping for Successful Value-Added Enterprises	June	2017
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	CPA - Record Keeping for Successful Value-Added Enterprises	December	2017
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	CPA - Improve Communication/Build Better Relationships with Real Colors	January	2018
F&V, VAP	CPA - Farmers Market Boot Camp	Jan./Feb.	2018
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	Pick Tennessee Conference	February	2018
F&V	Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training	February	2018
F&V, VAP	CPA - Food for Profit	March	2018
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	CPA - Improve Communication/Build Better Relationships with Real Colors	March	2018
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	CPA - Record Keeping for Successful Value-Added Enterprises	March/July	2018
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	UT - Quickbooks Financial Record Keeping (Dallas Manning)	July	2018
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	CPA - Device Ready Program	August	2018
F&V	Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training	October	2018
F&V	Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training	November	2018
F&V	Cornell Online GAPs course	Oct./Nov./Dec.	2018
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	CPA - Facebook 101 for Direct Farm Marketers	Nov./Dec.	2018
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	CPA - Developing a Sustainable Business Workshop Series	Jan./Feb.	2019
F&V, VAP	CPA - Farmers Market Boot Camp	Jan./Feb.	2019
F&V, VAP	CPA - Food for Profit	Jan./Feb.	2019
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	Pick Tennessee Conference	February	2019
F&V	Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training	February	2019
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	UT - Quickbooks Financial Record Keeping (Dallas Manning)	July	2019
F&V	Cornell Online GAPs course	Aug./Oct.	2019
F&V	Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training	November	2019
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	CPA - Got Farm Records...Now What?	Sept./Oct./Nov.	2019
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	CPA - Got Farm Records...Now What?	Jan./Feb.	2020
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	Pick Tennessee Conference	February	2020
F&V	Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training	February	2020
Agri-T, F&V, VAP	Appalachian RC&D Council's Field School	Summer/Winter	2020

(List current as of August 2019)

References

TAEP Producer Diversification	615-837-5324
	615-837-5346
	615-837-5136
TDA State Apiarist	615-837-5342
TDA Value – Added Meats Marketing Consultant	615-837-5309
UT Master Beekeeper Program	865-974-0209
	bees.tennessee.edu/beemaster.htm
UT Center for Profitable Agriculture (CPA)	931-486-2777
	cpa.utk.edu
UT/TSU Extension	865-974-7114
	utextension.tennessee.edu or www.tnstate.edu/extension for your local UT/TSU Extension Office
UT Mastery Nursery Producer Program (TMNP).....	865-974-7152
	www.tnmasternursery.com
UT Organics	865-974-7324
	organics.tennessee.edu
Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) Certification	865-974-7274
Organic Certification Agencies near Tennessee:	
Quality Certification Services (QCS)	352-377-0133
	www.qcsinfo.org
Georgia Crop Improvement Association (GCIA).....	706-542-2351
	www.georgiacrop.com
USDA National Organic Program (NOP).....	202-720-3252
	www.ams.usda.gov/NOP
Tennessee Small Business Development Center.....	877-898-3900
	www.tsbdc.org



2019 TAEP Cost Share – Application B

Producer Diversification

Official Use Only

Important! This form will be scanned. Please complete in CAPITAL LETTERS using a black or dark blue ink pen. Do not use a felt tip pen, pencil, or marker. Leave boxes blank to indicate spaces. Please do not write outside the boxes.

1. APPLICANT INFORMATION

Last Name: [Grid]

First Name: [Grid]

Middle Name: [Grid]

Title: ☐ MR ☐ MRS ☐ MS ☐ MISS Suffix: ☐ JR ☐ SR ☐ II ☐ III ☐ IV

Social Security Number – Last four digits only: X X X – X X – [Grid]

This is for identification purposes ONLY. Applicant will provide taxpayer information at time of reimbursement.

Mailing Address: [Grid]

City: [Grid]

State: [Grid] Zip: [Grid] Farm County: [Grid]

Home Address: [Grid]

City: [Grid]

State: [Grid] Zip: [Grid]

Home Phone: [Grid] – [Grid] – [Grid] Cell Phone: [Grid] – [Grid] – [Grid]

Email: [Grid]

2. FEDERAL IRS SCHEDULE F: I have filed a Federal IRS Schedule F in one of the following years.

Please check year(s) filed: ☐ 2017 ☐ 2018 ☐ No, I have not filed

3. TAEP PRODUCER NUMBER (TPN): [Grid]

New TAEP applicants will not have a TPN until applications are processed.

4. INDUSTRY SECTOR: Indicate sector(s) that apply to your cost share projects.

☐ Agritourism ☐ Fruit & Vegetable ☐ Honey Bee ☐ Horticulture ☐ Organic ☐ Value-Added Products

5. COST SHARE REQUEST AMOUNT:

Requested amount cannot exceed program maximum of \$15,000.

\$ [Grid] , [Grid] [Grid]

6. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS for 50% cost share

Special requirements are only required if seeking 50% cost share. If only seeking 35%, please skip to #7.

Please indicate the special requirements you have met or plan to meet before the reimbursement deadline of August 1, 2020. Refer to the sector you are applying for (in the application or online) to find which requirements are needed to be eligible for 50% cost share.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS			
Project Sector	Course/Event Title	Date	Location

The Producer Diversification Special Requirements List is posted at www.tn.gov/taep in Producer Programs under Producer Diversification and updated when new courses are added. See p. 23 for the list as of time of publication printing.

7. PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION

Have you previously applied for any of the following? Check all that apply: ☐ TAEP ☐ Ag Enterprise Fund (AEF)

8. APPLICANT AGREEMENT

- I certify I am a citizen of the United States of America or lawfully present in the United States.
- I certify I am a resident of Tennessee and that I am at least 18 years old during application period.
- I certify I have filed a Federal IRS Schedule F (Form 1040) within the last two years (2017 or 2018).
- I understand only one Application B is allowed per Federal IRS Schedule F, per person, per application period, per operation.
- I understand it is my responsibility to ensure that my project is eligible and meets all TAEP criteria.
- I certify all the information on this application is complete, true and factual to the best of my knowledge and belief.
- I understand providing any false, fraudulent or misleading information may result in penalties and/or make my operation ineligible to participate in present and/or future Tennessee Department of Agriculture programs.
- I have reviewed and understand all of the guidelines listed in this application booklet.

Print Name:

Date:

 / /

Signature:

9. APPLICATION B CHECKLIST

Prepare your application materials in the following order and submit together:

- Application B Form – required
- Proposal – required
- Project cost quotes – required
- Project dimensions, designs, and/or photos – if applicable

- **Paper applications must be postmarked or hand delivered October 1 - 15, 2019**
- **Mail to: TDA, TAEP FY2019 - B, P.O. Box 40627, Nashville, TN 37204**
- **It is recommended to make a copy and mail the original using a traceable method of delivery**
- **Applicant will be notified in writing of approval or denial of application**

Additional TAEP Programs

The following cost share programs are also offered by TAEP.

- Genetics
- Hay Equipment
- Herd Health
- Livestock Equipment
- Livestock Solutions
- Row Crop Solutions
- Working Facility Structures
- Poultry Grower
- Licensed Livestock Market Equipment
- Veterinarian Equipment

Please contact taep.online@tn.gov for additional information.

Nondiscrimination

The Tennessee Department of Agriculture prohibits discrimination against persons based on their race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. Any person alleging discrimination based on a prohibited basis has a right to file a complaint within 180 days of the alleged discrimination with the Tennessee Department of Agriculture and/or the Tennessee Human Rights Commission. For more information contact Human Resources at 615-837-5116.

Public Disclosure

Under Tennessee's Public Records law, information provided to the state becomes public record and is open to public inspection unless otherwise protected by state or federal law.

A public record is defined as all documents or materials, regardless of physical form or characteristics made or received in connection with the transaction of official business by any governmental agency. Please be aware that information collected by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture could be made available to the public upon request by any citizen of the state. Requests for public records will be examined for compliance with public record laws.

TAEP Contact Information

herd.health@tn.gov
livestock.genetics@tn.gov
livestock.equipment@tn.gov
working.facility@tn.gov
rowcrop.solutions@tn.gov
hay.equipment@tn.gov
livestock.solutions@tn.gov
poultry.grower@tn.gov
producer.diversification@tn.gov
taep.online@tn.gov

Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program

Tennessee Department of Agriculture
Ellington Agricultural Center
P.O. Box 40627
Nashville, TN 37204

Information Line

1.800.342.8206



Physical Address:
Ellington Agricultural Center
Holeman Building
424 Hogan Road
Nashville, TN 37220



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